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Update on Homeless Services

Austin City Council

January 11, 2007

H.G. (Bert) Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager



Overview

- **Homeless Task Force – Rick Rivera, Chair**
- **End Chronic Homelessness Organizing (ECHO) Committee – John Nyfeler, Chair**
- **Mobile Loaves and Fishes – Alan Graham, President**
- **House the Homeless – Richard Troxell, President**
- **City of Austin – David Lurie, HHSD**

Homeless Continuum of Services

**Homeless
Prevention**

**Street
Outreach,
Intake,
Assessment**

Shelter

**Transitional
Housing**

**Affordable
Housing**

Community Planning

**Service
Examples:
Family
Eldercare,
Caritas**

**Service
Examples:
MHMR
Access,
Mobile
Loaves &
Fishes**

**Service
Examples:
Salvation
Army,
SafePlace**

**Service
Examples:
Blackland,
LifeWorks**

**Service
Examples:
Tenant-
Based
Rental
Assistance,
Garden
Terrace**



Homeless Task Force

Presentation to Austin City Council

Rick Rivera, Chair

<http://www.austinhtf.org/>

January 11, 2007

Homeless Task Force

Community Action Network

Homeless Task Force (2005-2006 Committees)

- Executive and Policy Advocacy Committee
- Resources and Programs Committee
- Community Education Committee
- Stand Down
- End Chronic Homelessness Organizing (ECHO) Committee

Chair

Steering Committee - Chair, Vice Chair, Subcommittee Chairs, & At-Large member

Subcommittees

Planning & Evaluation – Plan for Outcomes

Prevention – Prevent future homelessness

Exiting – Help people exit homelessness

Systemic Issues/Advocacy – Build the Infrastructure

Staff Support



Summary of HTF Recent Activities

Information/Process Collaboration

- **Held Two Community Awareness Events**
- **Published Homeless Task Force Website**
(www.AustinHTF.org)
- **Created Brochure on Homelessness**
- **Joined Coalition for Housing Advocacy**
- **Supported Community Voice Mail**
- **Enhanced the Use of Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**
- **Expand Collaborative Opportunities**



Homeless Task Force Challenges

- **Affordable Housing** – Housing costing no more than 30% of a household's income.
- **Support Services** – Child care, Employment, General Health Care, Case Management
- **Shelter/Housing Services for Women**
- **Substance Abuse Treatment Beds**
- **Mental Health Services**



Ending Chronic Homelessness Organizing Committee

Presentation to Austin City Council

John Nyfeler, Chair

<http://www.austinhtf.org/>

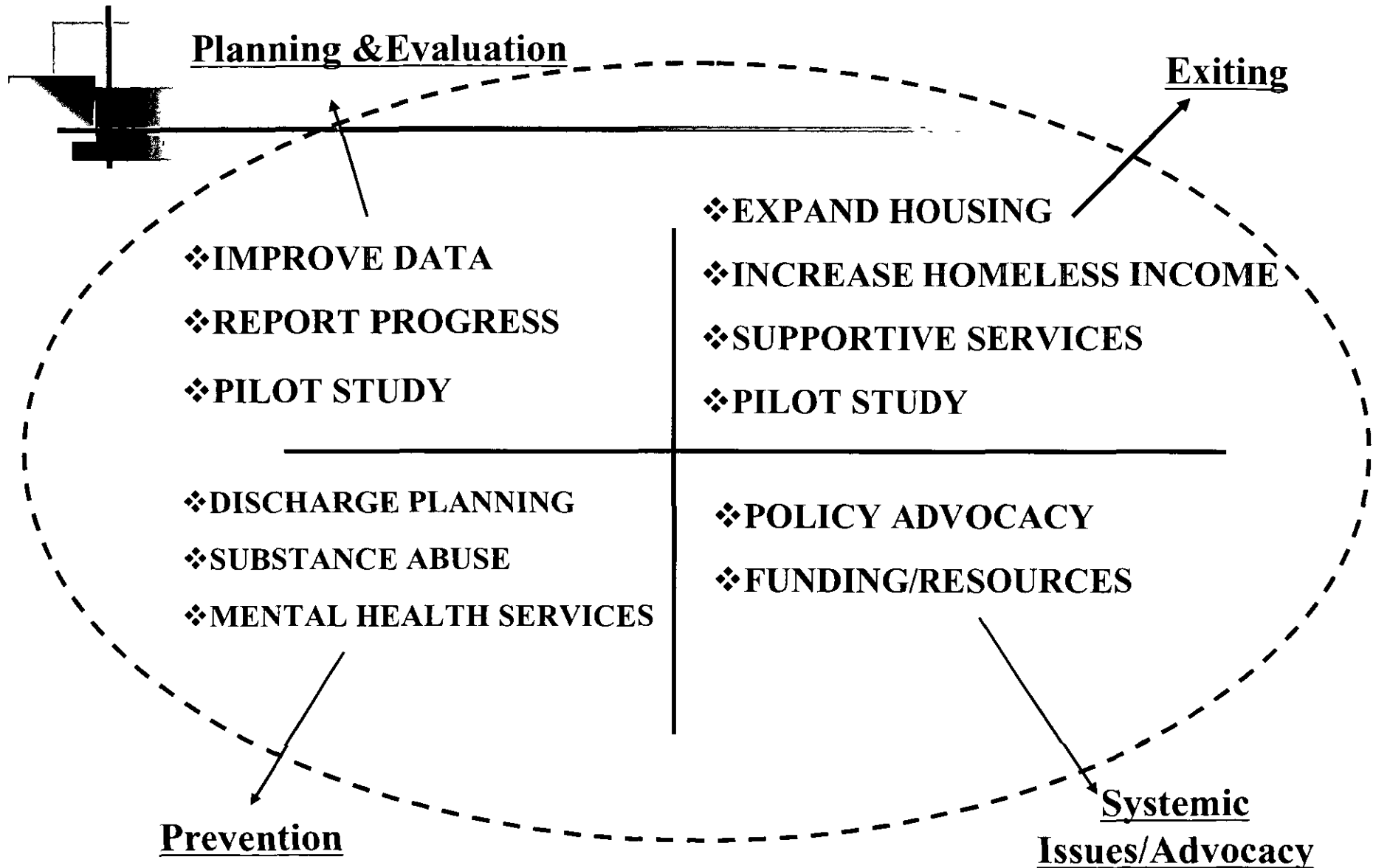
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ECHO Mission Statement

The Mission of the ECHO Committee is to end chronic homelessness in Austin and Travis County. The overall role of ECHO is to identify specific strategies and to oversee ongoing planning, prioritization and implementation of plans to end chronic homelessness.

Action Plan: Years 1-2



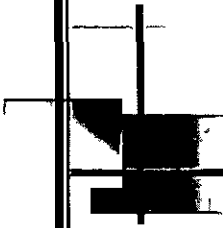


Successful First Steps

- **Increased ARCH Night Sleeping Capacity by 70 Mats**
- **Opened the ARCH Resource Center on Weekends**
- **Received Funding for a Representative Payee Program for the Chronically Homeless**
- **Obtained Agreement to Use Spring Terrace Permanent Supportive Housing for a Pilot Project**
- **Initiated Austin Treatment and Housing Collaborative Grant Application to SAMHSA**
- **Supported the Respite/Recuperative Center for the Homeless**

Summary – What are we doing differently now as a result of having a 10-Year Plan

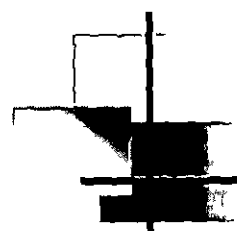
- **Focus on Affordable Housing**
 - **Including Supportive Services with all Housing**
 - **Prevention – the Basic Needs Coalition**
 - **Discharge Planning**
 - **Have a Common Goal and Common Language**
 - **More/Improved Communication/Networking**
 - **More Involvement with Downtown Businesses**
 - **Other Planning Bodies Focused on Chronic Homelessness**
 - **Better Educated Public Officials**
 - **Have Tool for Educating the Public**
 - **Beginning to Think in Terms of Really Ending Homelessness**
 - **Developing Comfort with Housing First/Rapid Housing Models**



Interacting with other Community Planning Workgroups

- **The Community Action Network**
- **The Homeless Task Force**
- **Re-entry Roundtable**
- **Mayor's Mental Health Task Force**
- **Basic Needs Coalition of Central Texas**
- **Housing Works**

End Chronic Homelessness Organizing (ECHO) Committee



Mobile Loaves and Fishes

Presentation to Austin City Council

Alan Graham, President

<http://mlf.convio.net/site/PageServer>

328-7299

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House the Homeless

Presentation to Austin City Council

Richard R. Troxell, President

www.universallivingwage.org

www.housethehomeless.org

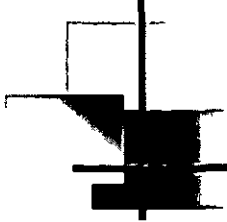
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House the Homeless

and Proposed COA Collaboration

- **Provide land for the HOW mobile home trailer park**
- **Install benches outside of the homeless resource center**
- **Collaborate on a legacy Town Lake beautification project**
- **Promote the Universal Living Wage**
- **Provide public toilets for people experiencing homelessness**
- **Create as permanent income funding stream for substance abuse treatment beds outside of the criminal justice system**
- **Support House the Homeless hate crimes legislation that protects homeless people**
- **Ensure the Austin Housing Authority allow no net loss of structural housing**



House the Homeless

Richard Troxell, President

**PO Box 2312
Austin, TX 78768**

796-4366

www.universallivingwage.org
www.housethehomeless.org



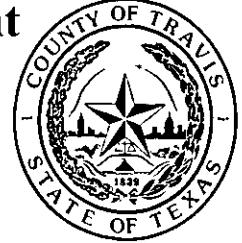
Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department

The role of public health is to

PROMOTE community-wide wellness,

PREVENT disease, and

PROTECT the community from infectious diseases,
environmental hazards, and epidemics



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David Lurie, Director, Health and Human Services



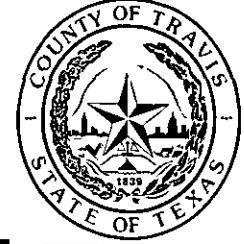
Investment in Services for the Homeless



- **Social Services funding – over \$4.5 million**
 - (City/County/Grant)
- **Substance Abuse MSO - \$1.5 million**
 - (City/County)
- **Healthcare for the Homeless - \$1.1 million**
 - (Healthcare District/grants)
- **Project Recovery - \$573,523**
 - (City, County)



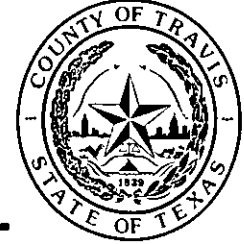
Self Sufficiency/ Housing Assistance



- **Rental Housing Development Assistance**
 - \$7.2 million since 1997-98
 - 529 units of transitional and single-room occupancy
- **ARCH Construction**
 - \$6 million, Section 108 Loan Funds
- **Tenant Based Rental Assistance**
 - \$544 thousand in FY05-06 (90 households)
- **Mental Health Transitional Housing**
 - \$1million
 - new in 07 – NHCD funding for facility, MHMR to operate



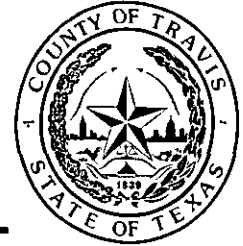
Challenges



- **Shelter Capacity**
- **Respite Care**
- **Basic Needs/Utility Assistance**
- **Support transitional/supportive housing**
- **Improve access to affordable housing**
- **Continue, and enhance, funding for homeless services, including health services**
- **Expand availability of mental health & substance abuse services**



Our Role



- **Participate in Community Planning**
 - **Community Action Network**
 - **Homeless Task Force**
 - **Ending Chronic Homelessness Organization**
 - **Mayor's Mental Health Task Force**
 - **Reentry Roundtable, etc.**

**Support community collaborative effort,
partnerships, to address and prevent
homelessness, and achieve
self sufficiency**